

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-13

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, TECH, PK, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET DEIGNATION LOOKS FORWARD TO EXPANDED EDUCATIONAL,
CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

SUMMARY: THREE-MEMBER SOVIET EDUCATIONAL DELEGATION
HEADED BY EDUCATION MINISTER VISTED PAKISTAN FEBRUARY
6-11, TOURED SEVERAL CITIES, WAS GIVEN WARM RECEPTION BY
GOP AND FULSOME MEDIA COVERAGE, AND SIGNED PAK-SOVIET
AGREEMENT FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS AND VISITS TO EXPAND
EDUCATION, CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGE.
END SUMMARY.

1. THREE-MEMBER SOVIET EDUCATION DELEGATION VISITED
PAKISTAN FEBRUARY 6-11, LED BY SOVIET EDUCATION MINISTER
M.A. PROKOFIEV, AND INCLUDING CHEF DU CABINET KALININ
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AND HEAD OF PAKISTAN DESK IN SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY

VOLKOV. VISIT WAS SAID TO BE AT INVITATION OF GOP EDUCATION MINISTER PIRZADA, EXTENDED DURING HIS FEBRUARY 1973 VISIT TO MOSCOW.

2. DELEGATION WAS ACCORDED WARM WELCOME BY GOP: MEMBERS WERE MET AT AIRPORT BY MINISTER PIRZADA, HAD MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO, MINISTER OF STATE AND DEFENSE AND

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AZIZ AHMED, GOVERNOR OF PUNJAB, PROVINCIAL MINISTERS OF PUNJAB AND SIND, AND VICE CHANCELLORS OF UNIVERSITIES IN ISLAMABAD, LAHORE AND KARACHI. PAK MEDIA ON FEBRUARY 9 REPORTED SIGNING OF AGREEMENT TO EXPAND EXCHANGES AND CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN FIELDS OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION, CULTURE, ART, MASS MEDIA, SPORTS AND PUBLIC HEALTH. IN ACTUALITY, AGREEMENT APPEARS TO BE LARGELY STATEMENT OF INTENT RE FUTURE DISCUSSIONS FOR MORE SYSTEMATIC AND EXPANDED PROGRAMS OF EXCHANGE. ONLY VISIBLE SPECIFIC BENEFIT FOR GOP WAS ENLARGED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS TO SOVIET UNIVERSITIES: 35 STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS PLUS 10 GRADUATE STUDENTS AND SCIENTISTS WHO WILL WORK IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE USSR, ACCORDING PAK PRESS ACCOUNTS.

3. "PROGRAMME" SIGNED FEBRUARY 8 BY PROKOFIEV AND PIRZADA PROVIDED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS IN FIELD OF BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION, CULTURAL COOPERATION AND JOINT VENTURES IN PUBLICATIONS. DELEGATIONS ALSO TO BE EXCHANGED IN FIELDS OF EDUCATION, CINEMA, LITERATURE, JOURNALISM AND SCIENCE. PROGRAMME ALSO LOOKED FORWARD TO EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS, UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS AND LECTURERS, AND WORKERS IN HIGHER SCIENTIFIC ESTABLISHMENTS FOR RESEARCH WORK, LECUTE AND FAMILIARIZATION TOURS, AND PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA AND SPORTS TEAMS AND COACHES, ACCORDING TO PAK PRESS.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE FREQUENT PRIVATE EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER SOVIET INTENTIONS TOWARD SUBCONTINENT, GOP CONTINUES TO STRESS PUBLICLY ITS DESIRE FOR MORE CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH USSR AND GREATER ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. FUTURE DISCUSSIONS AND EXCHANGES TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FEBRUARY 8 AGREEMENT SHOUND MORE IN NATURE OF VAGUE FRIENDLY NOISES THAN THE TANGIBLE ASSISTANCE PAKISTAN WOULD WANT IN UPGRADING ITS EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING FACILITIES. AS IS USUAL IN ITS HANDLING OF PUBLIC CONTACTS WITH SOVIETS, HOWEVER, GOP MADE EVERY EFFORT THROUGH NEWS MEDIA TO PLAY UP VISIT AS EXAMPLE BHUTTO REGIME'S SUCCESS IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH AND ATTRACTING ASSISTANCE FROM, SOVIET UNION. MFA DIRECTOR FOR EAST EUROPEAN AFFAIRS,

TO CONTRARY, PLAYED DOWN RESULTS OF VISIT IN DISCUSSION
WITH EMBOFF, EVIDENTLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE USG THAT THIS
WAS NOT "SOVIET CULTURAL INVASION" OF PAKISTAN (AS CHARGED
IN INDEPENDENT BUT ANTI-SOVIET NAWAIWAQT NEWSPAPER).
BYROADE

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